Lesson Sixteen: The Six Types of Verb Form I

PRINCIPLE ONE

Lesson Three illustrated فَعَلَ as a model pattern for the active voice of the *past tense verb*. This is only one of several possible patterns. Some patterns involve voweling the base letters alone while others involve adding designated non-base letters.[35] Patterns containing the base letters alone (i.e., without additional letters) are classified as *verb form I*. The active voice of the *past tense* of *verb form I* has three possible voweling patterns:

1) فَعَلَ
2) فَعِلَ
3) فَعُلَ

Note that the *fā'* (ف) and *lām* (ل) positions are always voweled with a *fathah* (َ); however, the voweling of the '*ain* (ع) position varies.

PRINCIPLE TWO

A given three-letter base, with rare exception, uses only one of these three *form I* active voice *past tense* patterns. For example, the base letters س–م–ع (*to hear*) use the pattern فَعِلَ to form سَمِعَ (*he heard*). On the other hand, the base letters ك–ر–م (*to be noble*) use the pattern فَعُلَ to form كَرُمَ (*he was noble*). The particular pattern used by any given set of base letters must be memorized.

PRINCIPLE THREE

The passive voice of the *past tense* of *verb form I* always uses the pattern فُعِلَ. This pattern was covered in *Lesson Three*.

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[35] Verb forms that involve the addition of non-base letters are not covered in this volume.

PRINCIPLE FOUR

All patterns of the *past tense verb*, whether active or passive voice, are conjugated using the suffixes illustrated in *Lesson Three* (*table 3.2*). When conjugating each of the three active voice *past tense* patterns of *verb form I*, the '*ain* (ع) position retains its particular voweling (*table 16.1*).

PRINCIPLE FIVE

Lesson Four illustrated **يَفْعَلُ** as a model pattern for the active voice of the *present tense verb*. This is only one of several possible patterns. The *present tense* always begins with one of the following four letters: *hamzā'* (أ), *tā'* (ت), *yā'* (ي), and *nūn* (ن). In *verb form I*, this prefixed letter is always voweled with a *fathah* (َ). However the voweling of the '*ain* (ع) position varies. Thus the active voice of the *present tense* of *verb form I* has three possible patterns:

1) **يَفْعَلُ**
2) **يَفْعِلُ**
3) **يَفْعُلُ**

PRINCIPLE SIX

The passive voice of the *present tense* of *verb form I* always takes the pattern **يُفْعَلُ**. This pattern was covered in *Lesson Four*.

TABLE 16.1

VERB FORM I ON THE PATTERN OF **فَعِلَ**

PERSON	GENDER	PLURALITY	BASE		SUFFIX		ACTIVE VOICE
3rd	Masculine	Singular	فعل			⇨	فَعِلَ
3rd	Masculine	Dual	فعل	+	ا	⇨	فَعِلاَ
3rd	Masculine	Plural	فعل	+	وْا	⇨	فَعِلُوْا
3rd	Feminine	Singular	فعل	+	تْ	⇨	فَعِلَتْ
3rd	Feminine	Dual	فعل	+	تَا	⇨	فَعِلَتَا
3rd	Feminine	Plural	فعل	+	نَ	⇨	فَعِلْنَ
2nd	Masculine	Singular	فعل	+	تَ	⇨	فَعِلْتَ
2nd	Masculine	Dual	فعل	+	تُمَا	⇨	فَعِلْتُمَا
2nd	Masculine	Plural	فعل	+	تُمْ	⇨	فَعِلْتُمْ
2nd	Feminine	Singular	فعل	+	تِ	⇨	فَعِلْتِ
2nd	Feminine	Dual	فعل	+	تُمَا	⇨	فَعِلْتُمَا
2nd	Feminine	Plural	فعل	+	تُنَّ	⇨	فَعِلْتُنَّ
1st	Masculine and Feminine	Singular	فعل	+	تُ	⇨	فَعِلْتُ
1st	Masculine and Feminine	Plural	فعل	+	نَا	⇨	فَعِلْنَا

PRINCIPLE SEVEN

All patterns of the *present tense verb*, whether active or passive voice, are conjugated using the suffixes illustrated in *Lesson Four* (*table 4.2*). When conjugating each of the three active voice *present tense* patterns, the ‘*ain* (ع) position always retains its particular voweling (*table 16.2*). This holds true for the states of *nasb* (نَصْب) and *jazm* (جَزْم), and with the active voice conjugations of the *emphatic*, the *command*, and the *prohibition*.

The passive voice always uses the pattern يُفْعَلُ. The *fathah* on the ‘*ain* (ع) position is retained in the states of *nasb* (نَصْب) and *jazm* (جَزْم), and with the passive voice conjugations of the *emphatic*, the *command*, and the *prohibition*. The *appendices* include complete conjugations of the base letters ض–ر–ب (*to strike*) as illustrative models.

PRINCIPLE EIGHT

Each set of base letters uses only one of the three active voice *past tense* patterns and one of the three active voice *present tense* patterns. For example, the base letters ض–ر–ب use the pattern فَعَلَ for the active voice *past tense* and يَفْعِلُ for the active voice *present tense*. Combining all variations allowed for the voweling of the ‘*ain* (ع) position in both the active *past* and active *present tense* results in nine combinations (*figure 16.1*). However, in practice, only six of these combinations are used. These are called the six types of *verb form I*.

TABLE 16.2

VERB FORM I ON THE PATTERN OF **يَفْعِلُ**

PERSON/GENDER/PLURALITY			PREFIX		PAST		SUFFIX		ACTIVE VOICE
3rd	Masculine	Singular	ي	+	فعل			⇨	يَفْعِلُ
3rd	Masculine	Dual	ي	+	فعل	+	انِ	⇨	يَفْعِلاَنِ
3rd	Masculine	Plural	ي	+	فعل	+	وْنَ	⇨	يَفْعِلُوْنَ
3rd	Feminine	Singular	ت	+	فعل			⇨	تَفْعِلُ
3rd	Feminine	Dual	ت	+	فعل	+	انِ	⇨	تَفْعِلاَنِ
3rd	Feminine	Plural	ي	+	فعل	+	نَ	⇨	يَفْعِلْنَ
2nd	Masculine	Singular	ت	+	فعل			⇨	تَفْعِلُ
2nd	Masculine	Dual	ت	+	فعل	+	انِ	⇨	تَفْعِلاَنِ
2nd	Masculine	Plural	ت	+	فعل	+	وْنَ	⇨	تَفْعِلُوْنَ
2nd	Feminine	Singular	ت	+	فعل	+	يْنَ	⇨	تَفْعِلِيْنَ
2nd	Feminine	Dual	ت	+	فعل	+	انِ	⇨	تَفْعِلاَنِ
2nd	Feminine	Plural	ت	+	فعل	+	نَ	⇨	تَفْعِلْنَ
1st	Masculine and Feminine	Singular	أ	+	فعل			⇨	أَفْعِلُ
1st	Masculine and Feminine	Plural	ن	+	فعل			⇨	نَفْعِلُ

Exists	يَفْعَلُ	فَعَلَ
Exists	يَفْعِلُ	فَعَلَ
Exists	يَفْعُلُ	فَعَلَ
Exists	يَفْعَلُ	فَعِلَ
Exists	يَفْعِلُ	فَعِلَ
Does not exist	يَفْعُلُ	فَعِلَ
Does not exist	يَفْعَلُ	فَعُلَ
Does not exist	يَفْعِلُ	فَعُلَ
Exists	يَفْعُلُ	فَعُلَ

FIGURE 16.1

COMBINATIONS OF ACTIVE VOICE *VERB FORM I* PATTERNS

PRINCIPLE NINE

Table 16.3 provides sample verbs for each of the six types of *verb form I*. The first line includes the active voice (third person masculine) of the *past* and *present tense verb*s, the active *masdar*,[36] and the *active participle*. The second line includes the passive voice (third person masculine) of the *past* and *present tense verb*s, the passive *masdar*, and the *passive participle*. The third line includes the *command* and the *prohibition*. The fourth line includes the *noun of time and place* and the *noun of usage*. Finally, the fifth line includes the masculine and feminine forms of the *superlative noun*. This complete model is illustrated in *figure 16.2*.

PRINCIPLE TEN

Verb form I, type E (**كَرُمَ**) differs from the other types in two ways. First, its *active participle* is formed on the pattern **فَعِيْل**. Second, it forms neither passive voice verbs nor a *passive participle*. All verbs that follow the pattern of **كَرُمَ** differ from the other types in these two ways.

ESSENTIAL NOTE

Each type of *verb form I* presented in *table 16.3* must be memorized and completely conjugated. For example, **نَصَرَ** and **نُصِرَ** should be conjugated through the *past tense* conjugations illustrated in *Lesson Three* while **يَنْصُرُ** and **يُنْصَرُ** should be conjugated in the states of *rafa'* (**رَفْع**), *nasb* (**نَصْب**), and *jazm* (**جَزْم**) as illustrated in *Lessons Four, Six,* and *Seven*. Similarly, practice in conjugating the *emphatic*, the *command*, the *prohibition*, and all noun forms is required. The *appendices* include complete conjugations of the base letters **ض–ر–ب** (*to strike*) as illustrative models.

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[36] The *masdar* represents the verbal noun of the base letters, usually translated as a gerund ending in "ing" or "ion." For example, **نَصْرًا**, from **ن–ص–ر** (*to help*), means, "helping." In order to preserve the rhyme of the model, the *masdar* is presented in the state of *nasb* (**نَصْب**).

فَهُوَ نَاصِرٌ The *active participle* is, "a helper"	نَصْرًا[37] Helping	يَنْصُرُ He helps	نَصَرَ He helped

فَهُوَ مَنْصُوْرٌ The *passive participle* is, "he who was helped"	نَصْرًا Being helped	يُنْصَرُ He is being helped	نُصِرَ He was helped

وَ النَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَنْصُرْ And the *prohibition* for this form is, "Don't help."	اَلْأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اُنْصُرْ The *command* for this form is, "Help!"

وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِنْصَرٌ And the *noun of usage* is, "a tool used for helping."	أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَنْصَرٌ The *noun of time and place* is, "a place *or* time of helping."

وَ الْمُونَّثُ مِنْهُ نُصْرَىٰ The feminine *superlative noun* is "a female who helps more (*or* most)."	أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَنْصَرُ The *superlative noun* is "one who helps more (*or* most)."

FIGURE 16.2

ILLUSTRATING THE MODEL FOR THE *VERB FORMS*

[37] *See* footnote 36.

TABLE 16.3

THE SIX TYPES OF VERB FORM I

نَصَرَ يَنْصُرُ نَصْرًا فَهُوَ نَاصِرٌ نُصِرَ يُنْصَرُ نَصْرًا فَهُوَ مَنْصُوْرٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اُنْصُرْ وَ النَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَنْصُرْ أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَنْصَرٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِنْصَرٌ أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَنْصَرُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ نُصْرَى		FORM I, TYPE A On the pattern of **فَعَلَ \ يَفْعُلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *fathah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *dammah* on the ‘*ain* position **نَصَرَ** , *He helped*
ضَرَبَ يَضْرِبُ ضَرْباً فَهُوَ ضَارِبٌ ضُرِبَ يُضْرَبُ ضَرْبًا فَهُوَ مَضْرُوْبٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اِضْرِبْ وَالنَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَضْرِبْ اَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَضْرِبٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِضْرَبٌ اَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَضْرَبُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ ضُرْبَى		FORM I, TYPE B On the pattern of **فَعَلَ \ يَفْعِلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *fathah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *kasrah* on the ‘*ain* position **ضَرَبَ** , *He struck*
سَمِعَ يَسْمَعُ سَمْعًا فَهُوَ سَامِعٌ سُمِعَ يُسْمَعُ سَمْعًا فَهُوَ مَسْمُوْعٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اِسْمَعْ وَ النَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَسْمَعْ أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَسْمَعٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِسْمَعٌ أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَسْمَعُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ سُمْعَى		FORM I, TYPE C On the pattern of **فَعِلَ \ يَفْعَلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *kasrah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *fathah* on the ‘*ain* position **سَمِعَ** , *He heard*

فَتَحَ يَفْتَحُ فَتْحًا فَهُوَ فَاتِحٌ فُتِحَ يُفْتَحُ فَتْحًا فَهُوَ مَفْتُوْحٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اِفْتَحْ وَالنَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَفْتَحْ أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَفْتَحٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِفْتَحٌ أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَفْتَحُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ فُتْحَى		FORM I, TYPE D On the pattern of **فَعَلَ \ يَفْعَلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *fathah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *fathah* on the ‘*ain* position **فَتَحَ** , *He opened*
كَرُمَ يَكْرُمُ كَرْمًا فَهُوَ كَرِيْمٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اُكْرُمْ وَ النَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَكْرُمْ أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَكْرَمٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِكْرَمٌ أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَكْرَمُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ كُرْمَى		FORM I, TYPE E On the pattern of **فَعُلَ \ يَفْعُلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *dammah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *dammah* on the ‘*ain* position **كَرُمَ** , *He was noble*
حَسِبَ يَحْسِبُ حَسْبًا وَ حِسَابًا[38] فَهُوَ حَاسِبٌ حُسِبَ يُحْسَبُ حَسْبًا وَ حِسَابًا فَهُوَ مَحْسُوْبٌ اَلأَمْرُ مِنْهُ اِحْسِبْ وَ النَّهْيُ عَنْهُ لا تَحْسِبْ أَلظَّرْفُ مِنْهُ مَحْسِبٌ وَ الآلَةُ مِنْهُ مِحْسَبٌ أَفْعَلُ التَّفْضِيْلِ مِنْهُ أَحْسَبُ وَ الْمُوَنَّثُ مِنْهُ حُسْبَى		FORM I, TYPE F On the pattern of **فَعِلَ \ يَفْعِلُ** The *past tense* (**اَلْمَاضِي**) has a *kasrah* on the ‘*ain* position and the *present tense* (**اَلْمُضَارِع**) has a *kasrah* on the ‘*ain* position **حَسِبَ** , *He considered*

[38] Some verbs have multiple *masdar*s. In the case of **حَسِبَ**, two are common and both are included above.